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|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | Application No. | Applicant(s) |  |
|                               | 10/063,228      | TU ET AL.    |  |
|                               | Examiner        | Art Unit     |  |
|                               | Gordon J Stock  | 2877         |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 9/17/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-8,10 and 11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 17 September 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

*Allowable Subject Matter*

1. **Claims 1, 3-8, 10, and 11** are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to **claim 1**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious in an apparatus for locating the leading edge of an object the first light source and second imaging means as well as the second light source and first imaging means being co-located in space coincident with each other in combination with the rest of the limitations of **claims 1, 3, and 4**.

As to **claim 5**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious in an apparatus for determining the leading edge of an object the first light source and second imaging means as well as the second light source and first imaging means being co-located in space coincident with each other in combination with the rest of the limitations of **claims 5-6**.

As to **claim 7**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious in a method of locating the leading edge of an object the first light source and second imaging means as well as the second light source and first imaging means being co-located in space coincident with each other in combination with the rest of the limitations of **claims 7-8 and 10**.

As to **claim 11**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious in a method of locating the leading edge of an object "co-locating the first light source and the second imaging means at a coincident point in space, and co-locating of the

Art Unit: 2877

second light source and the first imaging means at another coincident point in space” in combination with the rest of the limitations of **claim 11**.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

*Response to Arguments*

3. Applicant’s arguments, see Remarks, filed 17 September 2004, with respect to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), 112 second paragraph and 101 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Subsequently, due to the persuasiveness of the arguments as well as due to the amendment of the claims the previous rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), 112 second paragraph and 101 of the previous action have been withdrawn.

*Fax/Telephone Numbers*

If the applicant wishes to send a fax dealing with either a proposed amendment or a discussion with a phone interview, then the fax should:

- 1) Contain either a statement “DRAFT” or “PROPOSED AMENDMENT” on the fax cover sheet; and
- 2) Should be unsigned by the attorney or agent.

This will ensure that it will not be entered into the case and will be forwarded to the examiner as quickly as possible.

*Papers related to the application may be submitted to Group 2800 by Fax transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 2800 via the PTO Fax machine located in Crystal Plaza 4. The form of such papers must conform to the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The CP4 Fax Machine number is: (703) 872-9306*

Art Unit: 2877

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gordon J. Stock whose telephone number is (571) 272-2431.

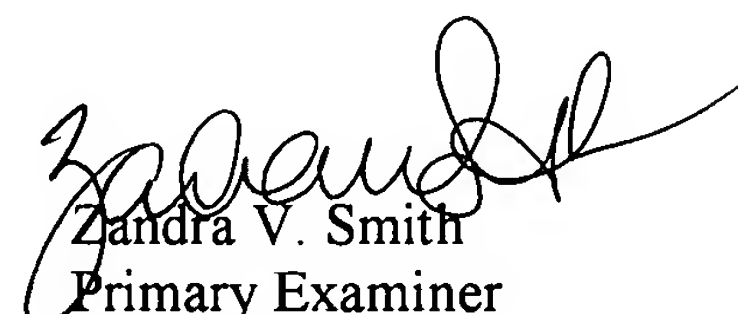
The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory J. Toatley, Jr., can be reached at 571-272-2800 ext 77.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private Pair system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
gs

September 23, 2004

  
Zandra V. Smith  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2877